

## Bridge

Continued from page A1

this project with the Ocean City-Longport Bridge project during the 1990s at a cost of about \$61 million. Foster said the Ocean City-Longport project was successful because it was moved to the DOT project management department as the commissioners have requested for the Middle Thoroughfare Bridge project.

"If the Department of

Transportation called tomorrow it would still take five years before we could get a shovel in the ground and that's the best-case scenario," Foster explaining that mitigation and the complexity of including environmental concerns requires long-term planning.

Foster said the original design for the steel bridge built in 1940 was to accom-

modate a 17.5-ton vehicle. The commission imposed the 15-ton weight limitation in 1992 after a steel-strengthening project.

"It's amazing we still have a 15-ton weight rating considering rust and corrosion," Robert Sandman, commission attorney said, "It has held up well with some maintenance."



Leslie Truluck/Cape May Star and Wave

The Middle Thoroughfare Bridge project seeks NJDOT and FHWA funding before construction can begin on the \$130 million bridge.

## Cats

Continued from page A1

said the goal of the committee was to bring the city into compliance with federal and state regulations.

"Our objective is to finalize the beach management plan. The beach management plan includes policies that regulate the beach zones - the use of vehicles, time schedules, how beaches are used - to include the elimination or removal of feral cat colonies from the bird nesting areas," he said.

Smith said the focus has been the protection of bird species such as black skimmers, the least tern and piping plovers. He said there are also four or five beach grasses on the endangered species list. He said the city was to prepare a draft of its beach management plan, which includes actions to protect the birds from predators.

"We've been working on this for a year and I've been working together with U.S. Fish and Wildlife and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on all this," Smith said.

According to Smith, the federal and state agencies have to sign off on approvals for the city's beach replenish-

ment program, which implies following federal and state regulations.

Smith said he has tried to keep everyone informed on the committee's progress, including giving presentations at Cape May City Council meetings. However, he said most people are sensi-

Smith said the city had a newly born kitten trapped inside electrical conduits on the mall, the rescue of which required assistance from Atlantic Electric, fire and rescue, the Cape May police, and public works.

"We had quite a team down there trying to save this trapped kitten and it took us quite a while but we were finally successful," he said. "But it's not fair to have these cats/kittens where they are in danger."

Smith said he has also received complaints about the feral cat population using mall planter boxes for litter boxes. The same complaint was voiced regarding cats around beachside business. The cats, he said, get into trash and garbage from beachfront stores and restaurants.

Smith said while he is aware of the public's sensitivity toward the treatment of feral cats, his main concerns have to be public health and the city's beach management plan. In addition, he said, animal control is outside of his purview as Public Works director.

The city is holding a special meeting Monday, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. in City Hall, where discussion will include its beach management plan.

*"People try to make it out as if I don't like cats. That's not the case. I like cats - I have a cat. I have a dog - I like dogs." - Robert Smith, director, Cape May Department of Public Works*

tive to the treatment of feral cats once they are trapped and turned over to an animal shelter. Some people are concerned the cats are being euthanized rather than adopted.

However unfair that might seem, Smith said he is not unsympathetic to the plight of feral cats.

"People try to make it out as if I don't like cats. That's not the case. I like cats - I have a cat. I have a dog - I like dogs," he said. "I have experienced several incidents that I didn't think were fair for cats."

## Drug seizures on local docks

LOWER TOWNSHIP - The Lower Township Police department reports that during the month of September 2007 there have been two drug seizures at local commercial fishing docks in Lower Township.

The first arrest involved a Virginia man on Sept. 6, in which a Thomas A. Davis date of birth, Jan. 18, 1958 of the 9000 block of First View Street in Norfolk, Va., was found inside his car awaiting suspected buyers in the area of the old A & J Dock on Ocean Drive in the Township of Lower. Upon being spoken to, he disclosed that he was in possession of eight bags of crack cocaine with a street value of \$800. Davis was charged with possession of

crack cocaine and possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine. In addition, his vehicle was seized along with his U.S. currency.

Judge DeWeese set bail at \$25,000 cash. He was transferred to the Cape May County Correctional Center in lieu of bail.

The second seizure and arrest occurred on Sept. 21 in the area of Schellinger's Landing when a subject was stopped after detectives received information of his activities and set up surveillance in that area. A total of 52 bags of heroin with a street value in excess of \$1,000 were seized. In addition, \$680 in US currency was seized and is pending forfeiture. A vehicle in which the arrestee

was driving was towed from the scene and taken to the Lower Township Police department.

The arrestee is identified as Juan Burgos date of birth Aug. 18, 1978 of the 3000 block of Shunpike Road in Cape May Court House. Burgos was charged with possession of heroin and possession of heroin with intent to distribute heroin. He was transferred to the Cape May County Correctional Center in lieu of bail.

Detective Chris Lambert, Detective Edward Doughty, Detective First Class Mel Hedum and Detective Sergeant Thomas Keywood investigated the case.

## WiFi

Continued from page A1

the 900 MHz transmitters and related infrastructure would be around \$750,000.

"There would be some additional costs to bring Internet here. This is something council has to decide," he said.

Kurkowski said council will have to decide how to set up and operate the system; whether or not the city would operate the system, set it up as a non-profit, have the city facilitate the operation, etc.

Kurkowski said the one

thing that has been determined is that residents and businesses would have to subscribe to the service.

"The model where you give Internet away is over," Kurkowski said. "Ours would be a subscriber and business model that the city could benefit from. That model is still viable."

Kurkowski said public safety and public works, for example, would be able to use the WiFi system to operate

more efficiently.

Kurkowski said recent discussions have included the technical aspects of subscribing, saying the city could set up a system for temporary subscribers who, for example, might buy a weekly subscription. But the bottom line, he said, is to develop a good system, or it is not worth the effort.

"We need to have great quality or nothing at all," he said.



**Cape Island Home and Gardens, LLC**  
a natural experience ...

**MAGGIE SAYS,**

**50% off Trees selected Shrubs & Natives**

**25% Off Hydrangeas & Knockout Roses**

We have Natives, mums, shrubs, perennials, pots, trees, ironware and much more.

720 Broadway West Cape May  
609-884-4210  
Open Daily from 9-5



Have news you'd like to see in **The Cape May Star and Wave?**

We love your email.

☺

cmstarwave  
@comcast.net

**DON'T GO HOME WITHOUT IT!**



Fall Issue in Stores NOW

Pick your copy up at Dellas 5&10, Swain's Hardware, Whale's Tale, Fudge Kitchens, Kaleidoscope and other fine stores. Subscribe online at [www.capemaymag.com](http://www.capemaymag.com) or call 1-888-898-2997.

**Cape May Star & Wave**

153 Years Old 1854-2007

600 Park Blvd. #28, West Cape May, NJ 08204  
PHONE: (609) 884-3466 FAX: (609) 884-2893  
Entered at Post Office in Cape May, NJ 08204 as a periodical


**SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:** By mail in Cape May County: \$22; East of Mississippi, \$25; West of Mississippi: \$29, Mail subscriptions paid in advance. Newsstand price .50 per copy.

**PUBLICATIONS SCHEDULE:** Weekly, every Thursday.


**POSTMASTER:** Send address change to Cape May Star and Wave, 600 Park Blvd. #28, West Cape May, NJ 08204.

**ASSISTANCE:** For information on starting mail home delivery of the Cape May Star and Wave, call (609) 884-3466 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

seek and you shall find



Comfort, Color & Style  
Affordably Priced



# Platt's

**HOME FURNISHINGS**

MacArthur Blvd.,  
Somers Point  
**927-8200**

WWW.PLATTSHOMEFURNISHINGS.COM